

Application No. 10/613,777

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 18.-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring force in a directionally and force controlled manner to a targeted object, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a device including a guide sleeve with a longitudinal passageway therethrough, and a stop positioned at a distal end of said guide sleeve;

providing an impact head received in said longitudinal passageway and placed adjacent said distal end thereof, said impact head having a proximal end which remains within said longitudinal passageway, said proximal end being defined by a slide portion that is positioned in close proximity with said longitudinal passageway, and said impact head further having an impact extension which extends distally beyond said distal end of said guide sleeve;

inserting a plunger in said longitudinal passageway;

attaching a removable tip to said impact extension;

orienting said guide sleeve in a direction for which force is to be directed toward the object to be contacted;

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sliding the plunger in the guide sleeve by maintaining the guide sleeve in a fixed position
and moving the plunger at a desired speed to contact the impact head with a desired force;

sliding the impact head in response to the force transferred from the plunger and
maintaining at least said slide portion of said impact head within the guide sleeve, said distal stop
defining a limit of travel for said impact head and to prevent said impact head from moving
beyond said guide sleeve; and

contacting the object with the removable tip.

26. (Previously Presented) A method, as claimed in Claim 25, further including the steps of:

removing said removable tip;
attaching a second removable tip to said impact extension;
sliding the plunger in the guide sleeve at a desired speed to contact the impact head with a desired force;
sliding the impact head in response to the force transferred from the plunger and maintaining at least said slide portion of said impact head within the guide sleeve, said distal stop defining the limit of travel for said impact head; and
contacting the object with the second removable tip.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring force in a directionally and force controlled manner to a targeted object, said method comprising the steps of:

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providing a plunger;

providing means for slidably receiving said plunger, said means for receiving having a stop position at a distal end thereof;

providing a means for transferring force from said plunger to a targeted object exterior of said means for slidably receiving, said means for transferring force having a slide portion remaining in said means for slidably receiving;

inserting the plunger in said means for slidably receiving;

attaching a removable tip to said means for transferring force, said removable tip being placed exteriorly of said means for slidably receiving;

sliding the plunger in the means for slidably receiving by maintaining the means for slidably receiving in a fixed position and moving the plunger at a desired speed to contact the means for transferring force with a desired force;

sliding the means for transferring force in response to the force transferred from the plunger and maintaining at least said slide portion within the means for slidably receiving, said distal stop defining the limit of travel for said means for transferring force to prevent said means for transferring force from extending beyond the means for slidably receiving; and

contacting the object with the removable tip.

28. (Previously Presented) A method, as claimed in Claim 27, further including the steps of:

removing said removable tip;

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attaching a second removable tip to said means for transferring force;
sliding the plunger in the means for slidably receiving at a desired speed to contact the means for transferring force with a desired force;
sliding the means for transferring force in response to the force transferred from the plunger and maintaining at least said slide portion within said means for slidably receiving; and contacting the object with the second removable tip.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of transferring force in a directionally and force controlled manner to a targeted object, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a guide sleeve having a longitudinal passageway;
providing an impact head having a slide portion and an impact extension;
providing a head receiving section, said head receiving section having an opening at one end thereof and sized for receiving said impact extension;
inserting said impact extension through said opening in said head receiving section;
attaching said head receiving section to a distal end of said guide sleeve, said head receiving section including means for removably attaching said head receiving section to said guide sleeve;
inserting a plunger in said longitudinal passageway of said guide sleeve;
attaching a removable tip to said impact extension, said removable tip being exterior of said head receiving section and said guide sleeve;

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orienting said guide sleeve in a direction for which force is desired to be directed toward the object to be contacted;

sliding the plunger in the guide sleeve at a desired speed to contact the slide portion with a desired force;

sliding the impact head in response to the force transferred from the plunger and maintaining said slide portion within said head receiving section, said head receiving section having a distal stop defining a limit of travel for said impact head; and

contacting the object with the removable tip.

30. (Previously Presented) A method, as claimed in Claim 29, further including the steps of:

detaching the head receiving section from said distal end of said guide sleeve; and reattaching the head receiving section to said distal end of said guide sleeve wherein said detaching step allows a user to clean, service or replace said impact head.